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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/083,278	05/22/1998	YOJI FUJIWARA	041-2013	3784

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EXAMINER

ZIMMERMAN, BRIAN A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2635

DATE MAILED: 09/03/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/083,278

Applicant(s)

FUJIWARA ET AL.

Examiner

Brian A Zimmerman

Art Unit

2635

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 June 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 3-6 and 8-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3-6 and 8-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

EXAMINER'S RESPONSE

Status of Application

In response to the applicant's amendment received on 6/26/02. The examiner has considered the new presentation of claims and applicant arguments in view of the disclosure and the present state of the prior art. And it is the examiner's position that claims 3-6,8-25 are unpatentable for the reasons set forth in this office action:

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

1. Claims 17 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Specifically, claims 17 and 21 depend from claim 2 which has been cancelled, which makes these claims confusing.

Claim Rejections

2. Claims 11,12,20,23,25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious in view of the WO publication to Motorola (WO 96/06417, hereafter referred to as the Motorola Publication).

The Motorola publication shows a pager, which receives codes. A first portion of a received code is compared to a stored address to detect if the message is directed to the particular paging receiver, page 4 lines 20+. A second portion of the codes is used to convey display information to the user (page 4 lines 34+), and a third portion of the codes is used to activate a sound generator to audibly generate recalled tones to be heard by the user for presenting an audible composition to the user (page 4 lines 35+). It remains the examiner's position that the Motorola Publication does generate a series of tones where at least one tone has a frequency that is at least a portion of the chromatic scale. The chromatic scale is a series of notes or tones that can be used to generate or write an audible composition. It remains the examiner's position that the Motorola Publication would in fact generate at least one tone that would exist on the Chromatic Scale.

In the alternative, it is well known that the chromatic scale is a group of notes that can be used to create music or an audible composition much like the various forms of the English Language. Similarly, it is clear the a musical or audible composition for alerting would have been obvious in view of the Motorola Publication regardless of the exact notes or the exact manner in which to express or "write" those notes. Therefore, it would have been obvious to use musical notes from different scales in the audible

generated composition since such would have been common techniques to use different notes to generate a composition.

3. Claims 11-13,20,23,25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious as being clearly anticipated by Kahn (5777997).

Kahn shows a radio receiver that receives a digital signal with codes. The receiver displays information based upon receipt of some of the codes, and generates audio information based upon receipt of some of the codes as claimed.

It remains the examiner's position that Kahn does generate a series of tones where at least one tone has a frequency that is at least a portion of the chromatic scale. The chromatic scale is a series of notes or tones that can be used to generate or write an audible composition. It remains the examiner's position that Kahn would in fact generate at least one tone that would exist on the Chromatic Scale.

In the alternative, it is well known that the chromatic scale is a group of notes that can be used to create music or an audible composition much like the various forms of the English Language. Similarly, it is clear the a musical or audible composition for alerting would have been obvious in view of Kahn regardless of the exact notes or the exact manner in which to express or "write" those notes. Therefore, it would have been obvious to use musical notes from different scales in the audible generated composition since such would have been common techniques to use different notes to generate a composition.

4. Claim 14,15,24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the WO publication to Motorola in view of Wong (5394140).

Motorola, as discussed above in conjunction with claim 11; shows pager for displaying and audibly generating tones for each message. Motorola does not expressly show an input means on the pager for assigning tonal compositions to be played in response to specific composition codes.

In an analogous art, Wong shows a pager, which generates audible messages in response to received message codes that are interpreted in view of stored corresponding codes. See abstract. This permits the user to have some creative control over how the audible composition is presented. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have used an input means on the pager in order to permit the user to creatively control the audible output of an composition discussed in the Motorola document.

5. Claims 3-6,13,16,18,19,22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Motorola and Wong as applied to claims 11,14 above, and further in view of Fisch (4873520).

In an analogous art, Fisch shows voice message pager. The pager of Fisch uses voice as the audible composition, in order to convey addition information to the user upon retrieval or playing of the message. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have used voice as the audible

composition in the above discusses system in order to convey additional information regarding the message.

6. Claims 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Motorola publication, Wong and Fisch as applied to claim 4 above, and further in view of Kawashima (5332994).

In an analogous art, Kawashima shows audible message pager. The pager of Kawashima uses the audible composition to convey addition information to the user. Kawashima uses a timer 12 to limit the time interval that the selected tone is generated; this provides protection to the power supply in that the audible generator does not drain the battery. It is also noted that stop commands are verily common in POCSAG systems. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have used a timer to limit the audible composition in the above discusses system in order to prevent excessive battery drain.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 6/26/029 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicant argues that Fisch does not include the features of the above data storing means for voice generation. First it is pointed out that Wong is cited for teaching

storage means for generating audible messages. Fisch is cited for teaching the advantages of using voice as an audible message.

The applicant argues that neither Motorola nor Kahn show the registering means of claim 11. The examiner points out that the digital message signal in the references paging systems is then used to generate an audible signal. Inherently, each portion of code received must be interpreted from a digital code into an audible signal. This inherently requires some table conversion mechanism.

The applicant argues that the references do not disclose preset messages such as "call your office" or "call home." The claims are not as narrow as the applicant argues. Claim 14, for example, recites "input means for inputting second data including character data..." The Wong reference shows provide an input means for inputting second data (call back number). This call back number is at least numeric character data.

The applicant argues that the references do not show storing a set of voice tone data to generate voice tones in accordance with the output of a reading means.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

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§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian A Zimmerman whose telephone number is 703-305-4796. The examiner can normally be reached on Off every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mike Horabik can be reached on 703-305-4704. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9314 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-4700.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Zimmerman', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brian A Zimmerman
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2635

BaZ
August 27, 2002